

Status Report: Appraisal Reform Team
(8/18/03)

- The Appraisal Reform Team held its second meeting August 12th -13th. The Team discussed a wide variety of issues that must be addressed to ensure both a successful transition to the new office and long term success.
- The Team continues to make progress in implementing the Secretary's directive to consolidate all valuation services within the Department by October 1, 2003.
- The Team is preparing a series of recommendations to the Department regarding such issues as: the organizational location of the new office within the Office of the Secretary; delegation of authority; guidance; appraisal policy; workflow; the selection of regional offices; criteria and duties of the new chief Appraiser; an oversight mechanism; communications; and training.
- The National Business Center is coordinating issues related to human resources, finance, reporting, contracting, payroll, and information technology.
- No decision has been made on whether to include OST appraisers in the new organization.
- Team members will continue to communicate weekly via conference call and meet monthly in D.C.
- The Team has scheduled the next meeting for September 10th -11th. The Team shall draft recommendations for resolving most remaining issues following this meeting.